DOCKET NO.: THOM-0022 PATENT

Application No.: 10/088,042

Office Action Dated: August 21, 2009

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1.-14. (Canceled)

- 15. (Currently amended): A method of sealing lengths of reclosable fastener to a continuous elongate substrate at spaced predetermined intervals along the length of said substrate, said method comprising:
 - (a) providing said continuous elongate substrate;
- (b) presenting lengths of fastener to said continuous elongate substrate at said predetermined intervals along said length of said substrate, said lengths of fastener each extending transversely to the length of said substrate, said lengths of fastener each comprising:
 - a body portion; and
 - a flange portion that extends laterally from said body portion and has a thickness in a direction perpendicular to the substrate which is less than that of the body portion in said direction;

wherein said body portion comprises first and second profile portions shaped for releasable interengagement with each other; and

(c) securing said lengths of fastener to said substrate by:

initially attaching <u>along the length thereof</u> said flange portion of each said fastener length to said substrate so as to leave the respective body portion of said fastener length free for movement relative to said substrate, thereby forming respective combinations of said substrate and said zipper lengths in which said flanges of said lengths of fastener are attached thereto by said flanges only;

subsequently passing said combinations of said substrate and said fastener lengths between a pair of sealing jaws; and

displacing said sealing jaws relative to each combination of said substrate and said fastener lengths to bring said substrate and said body portion of each fastener length into contact with each other to effect sealing of DOCKET NO.: THOM-0022 PATENT

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each said body portion to said substrate <u>along the length of the body portion</u>, whereby said body portions of said fastener lengths are no longer free for movement relative to said substrate and said fattener lengths are attached to said substrate by said flanges and said body portions thereof.

16. (Previously presented): A method as claimed in claim 15, in which the length dimension of said sealing jaws is adapted to form said substrate around the respective body portion of each said fastener length.

17. (Previously presented): A method as claimed in claim 15, in which said continuous elongate substrate is a first web of first and second substantially parallel webs of material, and said step of initially attaching said flange portions of said fastener lengths comprises attaching said flange portions to the surface of said first web of material facing said second web.

18. (Previously presented): A method as claimed in claim 15, in which said flange portion of each said fastener length is a single flange extending from said body portion of the respective fastener length.

19. (Previously presented): A method as claimed in claim 15, in which each said first and second profile potions of each said fastener length comprises an upstanding post at one lateral margin of the respective body portion, each said post contacting a heel at the opposite lateral margin of the other profile portion, the respective posts and heels being angled at their respective contact surfaces.